

Moorestown 23 March 1777

My dear Harry.

It is a week since I arrived here and yet there
has been no opportunity of directly writing to you - The enemy
are where they were and where I hope they will remain
for some time longer - That part of the Continental army here
have been immolated with the men, boys and women
have died that received the distempers in that way
A great part have gotten entirely well and the rest
in a fair way. A large party of the army are advanced
10 15 or 20 miles nearer to the enemy than this and
quartered in villages the names of which I should have ^{known} ^{would have been known} if it
it not been for this March ^{even} ~~here~~ ~~there~~ - as the
armies are pretty contiguous they fight often by way
of amusement and to keep their hands in - sometimes
they beat up our quarters and sometimes we beat
up theirs - our people have a pretty good knack
at multiplying themselves, and generally frighten his
Britannic Majesty's routed troops most awfully -
(Rejoice are more frequent among their troops than
I ever knew - ~~That~~ The British Ministry had a number
of troops from some of the men-selling-princes of
Great Germany to do garrison duty in Europe which
when they arrived in England were sent to America
and incorporated into the British Regiments
these ladies come over frequently - I intend you also

them since I wrote — they report that Genl. Howe intends
to Philadelphia and that they are preparing Bridges for
that purpose — if so we shall have an opportunity to have a
fight & a new scene in the art of War — I want them to throw a
Bridge over the Delaware in our sight — I guess we
shall burn some of their supporters — and if they
make use of pontoons to ten to one but we may
by chance make a hole in some of them — I am
sanguine these people will teach us to beat them. the
reason I can't say we have learnt much from them
yet — perhaps by reasoning and comparing one thing
with another we may learn ourselves to beat the
Armies of that Great Son of the Universe the King of
the most precious Island call'd Great Britain —
— Pledge to the dignity of human nature that there
should be such great aims as they have with so
little of the necessity to carry them on — I send to
My lady some papers which after you have seen I have
devised her to send to Mr. Rowdoin. This Invitation
of Genl. Howe by Gov. Livingston of this State is the worst
thing I have seen for some time — Genl. Howe's answer
in the York paper — some parts are wrongly stated —
— I have spoken to the General concerning your Regiments
he says that he has written in the strongest terms concerning
to the powers of the State that they ought to put the
3 additional Regiments of Infantry and one of Artillery
upon the same footing that they have their horse and

of the eighty eight — I suppose if the State does nothing
about it that Congress will take it up — you will
be able to judge from the manner in which they provide
Cranes — if they grant him the additional Bounty I
would advise you and Col^l Lee & Menley to write immediately
in a memorial to the Court praying yours to be
put on the same footing as the eighty eight — urging
the precedent ^{of Connecticut} who have considered their proposition
on the same point of view exactly as their
proposition of 88 — The General is anxious to hear
them for he has heard a good Report of you & the
Other Officers — The State of Massachusetts must raise
them sooner or later and can do it as well or
better than any other State on the Continent —
My Mother Mrs is in Cash I wish you to interest me
in the privation at Newbury which Mr Jones spoke
to me of 1500 or 2000 Dollars — more or less — don't
forget the Granlets & send them by Haver —
— Mr Beach for Mr Law & Doctor Franklin writes from
Philadelphia to his friend in this Town — "everything
goes on to my wish a War between England and
France is as inevitable as Death — write me my
dear Harry by every post and let me know every
thing or —
I am Yours Affectionately
H. Knox

March 17th 11 Defectors from 10th Regt. 1 at 38. 1 at 46. 10th 71.
and two to Princeton -
18 1 28th Regt. - March 19. 5 Defectors. 20th 71. 21st
21 - 7 Defectors - 22 March - 4 profaneers.

March 23. 1777

Letter from me
found 11th